

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Atsushi SANO et al.

Application No.: New U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP/2005/000751

Filed: April 4, 2006

Docket No.: 127570

For: MANUFACTURING METHOD OF SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND SUBSTRATE
PROCESSING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. Relevance of one or more non-English language reference is discussed in the present specification. See Reference 4.
- ☒ 3. One or more reference cited herein was cited in the International Search Report. An English language version of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information. See References 5-8.
- ☒ 4. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(ii), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.
- ☒ 5. An English language Abstract of one or more non-English language reference is attached hereto. See References 4-7.
- ☒ 6. A computer-generated English language translation of one or more Japanese Patent Publication cited herein has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([<http://www.jpo.go.jp>]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 4-7.
- ☒ 7. Please note: Reference 1 corresponds to Reference 6.
Reference 2 corresponds to Reference 7.
Reference 3 corresponds to Reference 8.

Respectfully submitted,

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| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | | APPLICANTS Atsushi SANO et al. | | | |
| | | | | FILING DATE April 4, 2006 | | | |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | |
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| Examiner Initials | Cite No. | Document Number | Date | Name |
| | 1 | 2004/0164329 A1 | 08/26/2004 | Hirano et al. |
| | 2 | 2002/0172768 A1 | 11/21/2002 | Endo et al. |
| | 3 | 2004/0171276 A1 | 09/02/2004 | Watanabe et al. |
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| Examiner Initials | Cite No. | Document Number | Date | Country | With English Abstract | With English Translation |
| | 4 | JP A 2004-006699 | 01/08/2004 | Japan | X | X |
| | 5 | JP A 2005-045166 | 02/17/2005 | Japan | X | X |
| | 6 | JP A 2004-259906 | 09/16/2004 | Japan | X | X |
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| Examiner Initials | Cite No. | (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) |
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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
| Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. | |

Date: April 4, 2006